

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 13-26 were pending in the application. Claims 13-25 have been withdrawn.. Claims 1, 3-6 and 9 have been amended. No claims have been canceled. Claims 27-35 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-10 and 13-35 are now pending and submitted for reconsideration.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 3-6 and 9 are objected to for various informalities. Claims 1, 3-6 and 9 have been amended where appropriate. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-10 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 196 00 348 ("Lewecke") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,873,922 ("Lisec"). Claim 1 has been amended. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Lewecke and Lisec, taken together or separately, fail to teach or suggest "at least one glass plate, from which a loading portion is separated, is provided with at least two different scribing lines before performing step b) ... [and] wherein only the loading portion is completely scribed, the residual portion remains unscribed," as required by claim 1. The Office Action correctly states that Lewecke "does not disclose the glass plate sheet being scribed before dividing the sheet." Office Action at p. 3.

Further, Lisec discloses that the whole glass plate is scribed at cutting station 2. Lisec teaches a glass plate 1 that is notched in a station 2, after which the entire glass plate 1 is moved into the first breaking station 3 to divide the glass into left and right portions. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of Lisec, both the left and right portions have notches. Fig. 1 illustrates a whole glass plate being notched and Fig. 2 illustrates that after the first breaking station 3, the right side clearly has notches X in the remaining portion. Lewecke and Lisec

fail to teach or suggest completely scribing only the loading portion such that “the residual portion remains unscribed.”

In addition, Lewecke and Lisec, taken together or separately, fail to teach or suggest “wherein steps a and b are repeated such that glass plates are extracted from the storage unit and loading portions are delivered to the glass processing installation in a predetermined sequence,” as called for by claim 1. Lewecke merely discloses that the placing into and out of storage is computer controlled. *See* Lewecke at p. 2, lines 34-36. Lewecke does not deliver a predetermined sequence of glass plates from the storage unit to the glass processing installation. Furthermore, Lisec does not teach or suggest a loading portion that is sent to the installation and a remainder portion that is stored. All parts are stored. *See* Lisec at Fig. 2; and col. 2, line 64 to col. 3, line 20. Therefore, there is no predetermined sequence in loading the installation. Accordingly, for all of these reasons, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the combination of Lewecke and Lisec. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10, 26 and new claims 27-35 depend from claim 1 and are allowable therewith, for at least the reasons set forth above, without regard to the further patentable subject matter set forth in these dependent claims.

For example, none of the references teach or suggest “wherein the glass plates are stored in the storage unit in an essentially vertical position, and wherein the glass to be divided is completely pulled out of the storage unit and moved to a horizontal position for scribing the glass plate and dividing it into the loading and residual portion” as required by claim 34. Both Lewecke and Lisec teach dividing a glass plate in a vertical direction, not scribing the glass plate in a horizontal direction.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

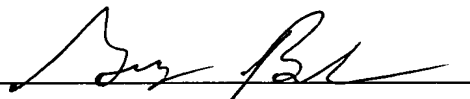
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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